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The editor has crowded so much valuable matter into this work, and, furthermore, has approached it in such an original and fruitful direction, that he may well be excused for leaving to others the matter of its Biblical words and phrases. With one or two exceptions he has avoided in his translation the apparent allusions, even though they might help interpret the homily. The work is to be heartily welcomed. It is much nearer perfection than is to be usually expected of an *editio princeps*.

I. H. H.

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Sammlung kurzer Grammatiken Germanischer Dialecte. Angelsächsische Grammatik von EDUARD SIEVERS. Halle, Max Niemeyer, 1882.

A treatise on Old English grammar, scientifically conceived, independently wrought out, abreast of the highest contemporaneous scholarship, discriminating between the various stages in the development of the language, as well as between the coexistent dialects, and paying due regard to it both as a separate entity and as a member of the Germanic family, has hitherto been a *desideratum*.

How inadequate have been the conceptions which living scholars, as well as those recently deceased, have entertained of phonology, for instance, may be illustrated by reference to one or two manuals lately published. Körner, in his *Einleitung in das Studium des Angelsächsischen* (Heilbronn, 1878), thus disposes of the Lautlehre in a note to p. 2: "Eine wissenschaftliche Darstellung der angelsächsischen Lautverhältnisse ist von Grein, Koch und Holtzmann in ihren Grammatiken versucht worden. Sie erfordert Kenntniss der verwanten Dialekte, ist aber, wie sich schon aus dem Folgenden ergeben wird, für das Angelsächsische von besonderer Schwierigkeit und geringem Nutzen; daher ist hier auf sie verzichtet."

Grein, in his *Kurzgefasste Angelsächsische Grammatik* (edited by Professor Wülcker, of Leipzig, in 1879), devotes 7 pages to an introduction, and nearly 15 to a sketch of the Old Anglo-Saxon and Northumbrian Literature, but only 9 to the Anglo-Saxon vowels, and less than 12 to the consonants.

Holtzmann's *Altdeutsche Grammatik* (1870) contains valuable paragraphs treating of Anglo-Saxon phonology, but the premature death of the author prevented him from finishing even the volume devoted to the phonology of the Germanic dialects. Since that year a number of monographs have been published, chiefly in the form of contributions to periodicals and the proceedings of learned societies, and it was from these scattered pages, not always to be collected without great difficulty, that the student was obliged to glean the facts and theories which would enable him to construct the outlines of Anglo-Saxon grammar. From this labor he is at once relieved by the appearance of Sievers' manual, of which it is scarcely too much to say that it fulfils the various conditions specified in the opening paragraph of this review.

The series of brief grammars of which this forms the third volume, has thus far issued from the hands of the so-called 'Junggrammatiker,' Braune contributing the Gothic Grammar, a model of accuracy and elegant simplicity, and Paul the Middle High German Grammar. We say the so-called 'Junggrammatiker,' for this is an appellation bestowed upon them in derision by their opponents, and never accepted by this little band of earnest and high-hearted scholars;

but by whatever name they are known, it can no longer be disputed that they are accomplishing a revolution, at once beneficial and inevitable, in the methods of comparative philology.

An epoch of riotous and over-fanciful speculation is to be succeeded by one of sober induction; abstractions are no longer to usurp the place of concrete existences, and serve, in the hands of philological jugglers, to mystify at once an uninitiated laity and the hierophants themselves. In short, the scientific temper is to prevail in matters linguistic, an event which is sure to be regarded with dismay both by super-subtlety and by dilettanteism. But whatever be the outcome of the movement, its leaders have contented themselves with very modest professions. Their aim, so far as it may be gathered from their authoritative statements, is but to rescue one small province, that of phonology, from the dominion of caprice and to bring it under the reign of law.

One or two quotations from Paul, whose fondness for philosophical discussion has made him the most prominent expositor of the new doctrines, will serve to characterize the points at issue, and to show how they are regarded by the 'Junggrammatiker.' In the *Beiträge zur Geschichte der Deutschen Sprache und Literatur*, Bd. IV, Paul says :

"So lange man es mit den Lautgesetzen nicht sehr streng nahm, so lange fand man nicht sehr viele erhebliche schwierigkeiten bei der vergleichung der germanischen dialecte oder der indogermanischen sprachfamilien unter einander in bezug auf ihre declination und conjugation. Es genügte eine ungefähre ähnlichkeit der formen, die allgemeine möglichkeit oder wahrscheinlichkeit der bei der vergleichung postulierten lautübergänge" . . . pp. 317-8.

"Die voraussetzung, von welcher dabei ausgegangen wird, ist die, dass jedes lautgesetz mit absoluter notwendigkeit wirkt, dass es ebenso wenig eine ausnahme gestattet, wie ein chemisches oder physikalisches gesetz. Mit dieser voraussetzung steht und fällt die von mir befolgte methode. Wer sich entschliesst die erstere zu verwerfen, der braucht auch die letztere nicht anzuerkennen. Er verzichtet aber damit überhaupt auf die möglichkeit, die grammatik zu dem range einer wissenschaft zu erheben." *Beiträge VI 1.*

"Eben das vertrauen zu der absoluten gesetzmässigkeit der lautbewegung ist es, wodurch die sprachwissenschaft der naturwissenschaftlichen evidenz nahe kommt, und wodurch sie in bezug auf sicherheit ihrer resultate allen anderen historischen wissenschaften so sehr überlegen ist. Dieses vertrauen dient ihr wie jeder naturwissenschaft als fundament, auf welcher sie aufgebaut wird. Es wird ihr dadurch das ziel gesteckt, alle lautlichen veränderungen unter gesetze unterzubringen, die mit absoluter consequenz wirken. Dieses ziel dient aber zugleich als prüfstein für die richtigkeit der aufgestellten gesetze und liefert die probleme, welche durch die forschung zu lösen sind. Nirgends darf man sich bei einer vielfältigkeit oder inconsequenz der behandlung eines und desselben lautes unter denselben bedingungen beruhigen. Kann nicht durch andere fassung der lautgesetze abgeholfen werden, so ist die unabweisbare consequenz, dass von den verschiedenartigen veränderungen unter gleichen verhältnissen immer nur die eine auf physiologischen wege entstanden sein kann, während die andere oder die anderen sich auf psychologischen wege, durch formenassociation eingedrängt haben müssen." *Beiträge VI 3.*

But to return from the general principles advocated by this school to the author of the particular volume which we have undertaken to notice. Sievers has made his mark upon the science of comparative philology by his labors in the two allied branches of grammar and phonetics. Before he had undertaken any serious original work he had shown himself a competent translator from modern Scandinavian; his version of Wimmer's *Oldnordisk Formlære*, the standard grammar of Old Norse, was made in 1871, and that of Thomsen's *Den gotiske sprogklassens indflydelse paa den finske* was completed about the same time. His conscientiousness and laboriousness as an editor have been well illustrated in his *Tatian* (1872), *Murbacher Hymnen* (1874), and *Heliand* (1877).

In addition to remarkable industry, his contributions to Paul and Braune's *Beiträge* display acumen of a rare order; in them he attacks no difficulty which he does not in some measure clear up; and even those who repudiate the doctrines advanced by the 'young grammarians' are obliged to concede that papers so rich in lucidly arranged material, and bearing in every part the impress of a master's hand, are indispensable alike to the student of Common Germanic and of the particular dialects treated. But it is as the leader of German phonologists, and the peer of Ellis and Sweet, that Sievers has won the widest and most indefeasible reputation. A keen perception of all shades and varieties of speech-sound, and a rare command of his own vocal organs, enabling him to reproduce any sound articulated in his hearing, and instantly to catch what is popularly denominated the 'accent' of the most difficult and unfamiliar tongue, are the special qualifications which have given him his present standing in this department. His *Grundzüge der Lautphysiologie* was published in 1876, and his *Grundzüge der Phonetik* in 1881.

It was not as a tyro, therefore, that he approached the difficult task of writing an Anglo-Saxon grammar. Indeed, the only risk to which he exposed himself was that of disappointing extravagant anticipations. As to the manner in which he has answered these expectations, it is enough to say that his grammar, though we should not dare to affirm that it is the final word on Old English phonology and inflection, does in truth mark a distinct and notable advance upon any similar work which has preceded it, and practically supersedes them all. Since the publication of Grein's '*Sprachschatz*,' no book so indispensable to the non-professional student of Anglo-Saxon has appeared. Nor will it be hardly less welcome to the English philologist, whatever his attainments, since he here finds collected, under one point of view, what must else be sought through many volumes, and is nowhere to be found in equal fullness and clearness. All that is important in the utterances of Old English scholarship for the last ten years is summed up in its pages, and the compilation is enriched by a great number of particulars supplied by the author's own observation. Yet these particulars by no means represent Sievers' full share in the materials of the volume, many of its most noteworthy paragraphs being mere abridgments of his own articles in Paul and Braune's *Beiträge*. In illustration of this fact it will be sufficient to compare the treatment of the *ð*-, *jð*-, and *i*-stems, §§252, 256 and 262, with PB I 486-504; the syncope of medial vowels, §§143-8, with PB V 70-82; the succinct note on *cuman*, §390, Anm. 2, with PB VII 80-9; and the statement regarding the instrumental, §237, Anm. 2, with PB VIII 324-33.

Not only is there a notable accumulation of facts, but they have been

arranged in an orderly and perspicuous manner which leaves little to desire. The exceptions which will be noted further on scarcely detract from the pleasure with which the student greets this lucid exposition of a most difficult subject. In particular is this true of the chapters on the vowels, hitherto the most hopelessly perplexed of all the intricate webs which the student of Old English grammar was called upon to disentangle.

The system of cross-references adopted, while at first blush it seems unnecessarily minute, proves in the end to be a convenient guide through the mazes of phenomena presented by the vowels. No less helpful are the pages (13-22) at the beginning of chap. III. Here the Anglo-Saxon vowels are considered in their relation to those of the Germanic and West Germanic, the treatment being ranged under two heads: (1) The Vowel Systems of Germanic and West Germanic, and (2) The Correspondences of the West Germanic Vowels in West Saxon.

The quantity of the Anglo-Saxon vowels has here been rigorously observed, the authority of the manuscripts being accepted as paramount. Besides the introductory remarks in §8, the fluctuations of quantity are examined in §§120-5. Of these the most unaccountable are the prolongations of vowels followed by single consonants in monosyllabic words, though these are supported by the same evidence as similar prolongations before nasal + consonant or liquid + consonant.

The prominence given to the unstable *y* and *ÿ*, §§31-3, together with the remarks on the *i*-umlaut of *ea*, *ed*, *eo* and *ef*, §§97-100, are reassuring at the outset, since they seem to contain the explanation of a puzzling phenomenon; closer inspection shows, however, that the difficulty is only shifted to other ground, remaining at last as inexplicable as before. Perhaps Sweet's suggestion, *Pastoral Care*, p. xxvii (cf. pp. xxix and xxx), is the most satisfactory yet advanced; cf. also ten Brink in *Anglia*, I 518-19.

Intimately connected with the last is the paragraph on palatal umlaut, §101. Its effect, according to Sievers, consists chiefly in the transmutation of the *eo*, *io*, produced by breaking before *h* + consonant, into *ie*, which *ie* ultimately suffers change into *i* and *y*. The discovery was made by Paul, who (*Beiträge*, VI 46-7) first called attention to the phenomenon, and provided the explanation, though he probably owed something to Möller, *Die Palatalreihe der Indogermanischen Grundsprache im Germanischen*, pp. 56-7.

The *i*-umlaut of short *o*, §93, deserves a passing notice. Sievers shows that the true umlaut of *o* is *e*. His theory is based upon Paul, *Beiträge*, VI 242, with which may be compared Cosijn, *Kurzgefasste Altwestsächsische Grammatik*, p. 36, D; for the older view regarding *ele* see Sweet, *P. C.* p. 491, though this explanation is modified in *Anglia*, III 157.

The plan of this book is essentially that of Braune's *Gothic Grammar*, *i. e.* the two exhibit the kind and amount of similarity which would naturally be expected between two grammars emanating from the same school. Braune had, however, the advantage of dealing with a much less complicated subject, and hence is not obliged to resort to long and frequent digressions. From the very nature of the case it is impossible for Sievers to attain equal symmetry in the disposition of his materials. The vowel system of Old English being extremely complicated, and the plan of the book including some account of

dialectic variations in the language, many of the inequalities to be noticed would seem to be unavoidable. Others may be explained from the fact that the grammar has grown by accretion from a set of University lectures. Sievers himself says in the preface: "Der kurze abriß, den ich jetzt der öffentlichkeit übergebe, macht demgemäss nicht den anspruch, mehr zu sein, als eine solche überarbeitung, obwohl über der umschriß und durchsicht manches ergänzend hinzugetreten ist, was der ursprünglichen fassung fremd war." Accordingly, the book is neither a mere outline of West Saxon grammar, containing only the essentials, nor an exhaustive treatise, discussing the various dialects in full. It is rather a compromise between the two, with a distinct leaning toward the original plan of the series, which is that of compendious manuals.

This conception might have been more strictly carried out, without material detriment to the value of the book, and with a decided gain as regards symmetry of execution and unity of impression. Such details, for example, as are introduced in §271, Anm. 2, §285, Anm. 2, and §374, Anm. are rather lexical than grammatical, and will be more welcome to specialists than to the great body of the students for whom the book, or at least the series, is designed. Who constitute the latter class may be learned from the preface to Braune's Gothic Grammar, which closes with these words: "Diese grammatiken sollen gedrängte, jedoch nicht zu dürrtge darstellungen bieten und besonders anfängern zur einföhrung in das philologische studium der betreffenden sprachstufe dienen."

A number of misprints and minor errors have been noted, but they are hardly serious enough to occasion the student much difficulty, and will no doubt be corrected in a second edition.

ALBERT S. COOK.

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M. Tullii Ciceronis Oratio pro Archia. Texte Latin publié d'après les travaux les plus récents. Avec une nouvelle collation du Gemblacensis, un commentaire critique et explicatif, une introduction et un index par ÉMILE THOMAS. Paris, Hachette et C<sup>ie</sup>, 1883. 63 pp.

Although the defense of the poet Archias is not, as Tacitus says, one of the orations which made Cicero great, and although in point of argument it is far from strong, it has always possessed a great charm for scholars and book-lovers, for those who believe that through literature the world lives. The present edition comes to us in a very attractive form, with a good introduction stating clearly what is known about the life of Archias, reviewing briefly the attacks which have been made on the genuineness of the speech, with a refutation of the charges, a good account of the sources of the text, and an analysis of the oration. The notes are full and helpful, and the editor shows a much greater familiarity with the recent results of German scholarship than was formerly common in French editions. Draeger, Naegelsbach, Seyffert, Merguet and Mueller are frequently referred to, but the editor has preserved an independence of judgment throughout, *e. g.* in §10 he keeps *inrepserunt* of the MSS against Baiter and Halm who read *inrepserint*, and explains thus, making the idea of time prominent: "*alors que beaucoup d'étrangers ont pénétré dans les villes italiennes, au moment où ils profitent de droits frauduleusement acquis, repoussera-t-on*